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INFO CJCS WASHDC PRIORITY 4872 SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY 2911

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY LOME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY SUVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 186245

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREL, UN, MARR, RW

SUBJECT: RWANDA: UN REQUEST FOR APC'S

- 1. UNCLASSIFIED -- ENTIRE TEXT
- 2. SUMMARY -- ON 23 JUNE 1994, THE UNITED NATIONS REQUESTED 40 M113-A2 TRACKED APCS FOR USE BY THE ZIMBABWEAN BATTALION IN UNAMIR (AT THAT TIME IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THE ZIMBABWEANS WERE TO BE THE SECOND UNAMIR CONTINGENT DEPLOYED IN RWANDA). THE UNITED STATES IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE APCS AT THIS TIME. END SUMMARY.
- 3. MISSION IS INSTRUCTED TO CONVEY OUR DECISION TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 186245 130323Z UNITED NATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE USING THE TALKING POINTS PROVIDED BELOW.

- -- AT THIS TIME, THE US IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE REQUESTED 40 APCS TO THE UN FOR USE IN UNAMIR. HOWEVER, REGARDLESS OF THE LOGISTICAL DIFFICULTIES WE WOULD HAVE IN PROVIDING THE APCS. WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS IN THE OVERWHELMING INTEREST OF ALL THAT THE UN SEEK SUCH EQUIPMENT FROM OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES.
- -- THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING EQUIPMENT TO THE GHANAIAN CONTINGENT OF UNAMIR. THUS FAR WE HAVE PROVIDED 50 M113-A2 TRACKED APCS, AND WE ARE NOW WORKING WITH THE UN CONTRACTS COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE THE LEASE/SALE OF ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT FOR USE BY THE GHANAIAN CONTINGENTT
- -- OUR SUPPLY OF SERVICEABLE APCS HAS BEEN DEPLETED. THE REMAINING APCS IN OUR STOCK WOULD REQUIRE EXTENSIVE REHABILITATION IN ORDER TO BE USED BY UNAMIR. THIS WOULD TAKE SEVERAL MONTHS TIME. IT WOULD BE IMPRACTICAL FOR US TO UNDERTAKE SUCH A PROJECT WHEN THE APCS ARE MORE READILY AVAILABLE ELSEWHERE.

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-- WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE THE UN TO APPROACH OTHER MEMBERS WITH SUBSEQUENT REQUESTS FOR EQUIPMENT. NOT ONLY WOULD THIS RESULT IN SPEEDIER FROCUREMENT OF NEEDED AFCS, IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT THAT THIS OPERATION RECEIVE STRONG, BROADLY-BASED INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT.

-- WE ARE APPROACHING GOVERNMENTS THAT WE KNOW TO HAVE M113-A2 APCS IN THEIR INVENTORY AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 STATE 186245 130323Z FROVIDE THESE AFCS TO THE UN IN SUPPORT OF UNAMIR.

-- THE US APPRECIATES THE OFFER BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE 50 WHEELED AFCS. WE REMAIN CONVINCED OF THE SUITABILITY OF WHEELED APCS FOR THIS OPERATION. IT IS OUR JUDGEMENT THAT THE UN SHOULD ACCEPT SOUTH AFRICA'S OFFER, AND THAT THESE VEHICLES BE PROVIDED TO THE SECOND UNAMIR CONTINGENT DEPLOYED IN RWANDA.

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